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7 November 1966

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INTELLIGENCE REPORT (SUPPLEMENT)

Prepared Weekly
for the
SENIOR INTERDEPARTMENTAL GROUP

DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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SUPPLEMENT

KOREA

The North Korean armed penetration south of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) on 2 November was apparently in retaliation for a South Korean raid into the North Korean portion of the zone on 26 October

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Although there has been a marked increase in North Korean harassing attacks against ROK troops along the DMZ since mid-October, we do not believe these actions foreshadow a decision to scrap the armistice agreement or to engage in wholesale violations of it. There is also no evidence that the North Koreans intend by these attacks to raise the specter of a "second front" in the Vietnam war, although they might attempt to portray their actions in this light at least privately to the North Vietnamese and other bloc parties.

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The 2 November raid, however, was targeted against American troops, suggesting that Pyongyang was seeking to put pressure on the US to prevent further ROK forays. South Korean military officials probably hoped the 26 October raid, which they claimed cost the enemy 30 casualties, would boost morale lowered by losses from North Korean attacks.

The US ambassador and the UN commander have warned ROK officials against any repetition of such incidents, but further South Korean reprisals are possible if the North Koreans persist in their aggressive behavior.

North Korean harassment along the DMZ, however, is expected to taper off during the next few weeks, when the foliage disappears and snow begins to fall. In past years, North Korean operations in the DMZ during the November-February period have been infrequent because of bad weather.

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